



Newsletter December 2018 *Respectful, Responsible, Resilient*

December has been such a busy month with pantomime visits, concerts, Christmas parties, and nativities. We even had a special visitor from the North Pole! The children have worked very hard over the course of this term and we are proud of their efforts and achievements. As we end another year we reflect back on 2018 and look ahead to 2019 and the exciting learning ahead.

Winter Weather

As we move onto the cold Winter weather it is vital that children come to school with adequate clothing for the season. Please ensure that your child has a warm and waterproof coat with them everyday. We advise that children also have a hat, gloves and a scarf to keep them warm and cosy as well as sensible shoes.

Please take extra care when travelling to and from school. While every effort is made to grit pathways in the school grounds this does not prevent them from still being icy and slippery.

During wet weather children should make their way into the school canteen through the **canteen doors (facing BHS)**. To relieve congestion we would appreciate if parents and carers could drop off their children at the door and not enter the canteen. Thank you

Good Bye Mrs Higson

We would like to say a huge good bye to Mrs Higson who is taking up a new teaching post at Eyemouth Primary after the holidays. Mrs Higson has been a part of the Duns team for over 15years and will be much missed by all.

Staff Goodbyes

We also say good bye to:

- Mrs Henry (ANA) from the Berwickshire Support Centre. We wish her a very happy retirement!

- Nadia Hume (SALT). A huge thank you for all her work in supporting our children

- Audrey in the canteen. A massive thank you for all her hard work and fantastic baking skills.

Christmas Jumper Day

We raised £224.50 at our Christmas jumper day last week. A huge thank-you to everyone who kindly donated.

Christmas Service

We warmly invite all parents and carers to our end of term Christmas Service at Duns Parish Church on Thursday 20th December at 9:30am.

Access doors

Please continue to note that pupils arriving late in school should use the Main Reception door located at the front of the building opposite the swimming pool. This door should be used **at all times** by parents and visitors. This is for the safety and security of our pupils.

Christmas Performances

It was lovely to enjoy the Christmas performances from all our children this month. P1 gave a wonderful performance of 'The 12 days of Yuletide'. P2 and P3 gave a fantastic performance of 'Whoops- a Daisy Angel'. Our senior pupils finished off the week with their fantastic Carol Concert showcasing their singing talents. We are very proud of all our children.

Education City

Our school has now subscribed to Education City. This is an online learning website which covers Literacy, Numeracy, Science, French and Computing. Each child has home access to Education City and they have been issued with their individual log ins. Children can choose learning activities and teachers can allocate tasks also.

Duns Primary is a Rights Respecting School



Article 28: Children have the right to an education

Class Assemblies

Over the course of this year each class will be leading an assembly showcasing their fantastic learning to which all parents, carers, family and friends are warmly invited. Our assemblies take place on Wednesday afternoons at 2:30pm. Parents are invited to join the staff from 2.00pm for tea and coffees and a blether. Below is a list of dates for class assemblies this year.

Wednesday 30th Jan 2019- P6A

Wednesday 6th Feb 2019 - P4/5

Wednesday 27th Feb 2019- P3B

Wednesday 6th Mar 2019- P6B

Wednesday 13th Mar 2019- P7B

Wednesday 15th May 2019- P3A

Wednesday 22nd May 2019- P2A & P2B

Wednesday 29th May 2019- P1A & P1B

Wednesday 26th June 2019- P7 Leavers Assembly.

Severe Weather

Arrangements

A new protocol has been announced by Scottish Borders Council to be put in place for situations when adverse weather impacts on schools, replacing the Resilient Schools Policy. The new protocol has been established after it became clear following recent severe weather events that Resilient Schools was no longer sustainable as significantly fewer teachers lived within walking distance of schools than in 2010, when the policy was developed. A separate letter has been sent out.

Accessibility Pass

To ensure the safety of all our children please be reminded that the car park at the top of the hill is for staff only. There is **no access** to the road leading up to the swimming pool / school staff car-park **between 8:30 to 9:00am and 3:15 pm to 3:45 pm (Monday to Thursday) and 8:30 to 9:00am and 12:45 until 1:15pm (Friday).**

We appreciate that due to individual circumstances some people may require access to the top car park during drop off and pick up times and we will therefore be allocating accessibility passes to those who require them. Please contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss should you feel you require a pass.

Musical Theatre Group

Our musical theatre group have been very busy rehearsing for their upcoming performance of 'Annie'. They will be performing on the following dates: Tuesday 26th March and Wednesday 27th of March. Further information to follow in the New Year but remember to save the date!

Thank-you

The Senior Leadership Team and staff would like to thank everyone for their continued support of our school. There have been so many parents, carers and members of the community who have volunteered to help within our school over the course of this year. Together, in partnership we ensure the best for all our children.

Happy Holidays

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 7th January 2019** at 8:50am.



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